List of the Constitution of India, this requires consultation with State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The recommendations are being considered in consultation with the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations. No time frame has been fixed in this regard.

Appointment of Judges

4069. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Pesonnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, in its recent report, has recommended for complete review of the procedure for appointment of judges in various courts;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the views of Government on these recommendations; and

(c) whether Government intends to review the procedure and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) In their report submitted after examining the Judges (Inquiry) Bill, 2006 introduced in the Lok Sabha on 19.12.2006, the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee has favoured for the restoration of the pre-1993 position for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts. They have also suggested that the appointments could be entrusted to a wider body with representation both from the judiciary and the executive.

(c) Government have noted the recommendation of the Standing Committee. However, in view of the judgement of the Supreme Court in Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record and anr *vs.* Union of India and anr, it is not possible to bring change in the present system of appointment.

Declaration of assets and liabilities by Judges

4070. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had adopted a self regulatory code for Judges, to declare their assets and liabilities annually, which is not being followed; and

(b) if so, whether Government would ask the Supreme Court to implement the code scrupulously or would enact a legislation on the subject, on the pattern of rules on the subject made by Parliament for Members of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) A resolution passed unanimously on the 7th May, 1997, at a meeting chaired by then Chief Justice of India and attended by twenty-two Supreme Court judges, had reportedly said, "every judge should make declaration of all assets in the form of real estate or investments held in their names, in the name of their spouses or any other person dependent on them, to the Chief Justice".

(b) In view of the independence of judiciary, it is not possible for the Government to ask the judiciary to implement their own resolution. The Government has, however, introduced the Judges (Inquiry) Bill, 2006 in the Lok Sabha on 19.12.2006 which, *inter-alia,* provides

for setting up of a National Judicial Council to look into the allegations of misconduct against the Judges. The proposed National Judicial Council would also be empowered to draw up a Code of Conduct for the Judges. The Bill was examined by the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee which has since submitted its report. The Report is being examined.

Land acquired for mining activities in Jharkhand

4071. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Relief and Rehabilitation Policy of Government for those whose land is taken for coal and mining activities in Jharkhand;

(b) whether Government is aware that lakhs of tribals are rendered landless labourers, after the Central Government or the State Governments took their land for mining and other industrial or public activities;

(c) how their rehabilitation is proposed; and

(d) whether Government has the complete data, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (d) The Government has announced the National Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) Policy, 2007 on 31.10.2007. The policy provides for certain basic minimum requirements for the people who are adversely affected by all the projects, including mining activities, leading to involuntary displacement. The R&R grants and benefits envisaged in the Policy applicable to all Project Affected Families include provision for alternate land, free house, financial assistance, employment etc. The details of R&R Policy are available on the web site of Ministry of Rural Development. Relief and Rehabilitation of land oustees whose land is being taken for coal mining in the State of Jharkhand, is done as per the Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of Coal India Limited. Department of Land Resources has informed that information about the Relief and Rehabilitation of tribals whose land was taken for coal and mining activities in the State of Jharkhand is not maintained.

Objections to Mineral Policy

†4072. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some States have expressed objections in respect of new mineral policy formulated by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objections of the States;

(c) whether Government had invited suggestions from the concerned States, while formulating the mineral policy;

(d) if so, what suggestions were given by the States; and

(e) the details of the action taken on them by Government?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) The Government had received representation from some states on the new National Mineral Policy, 2008 raising

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.